



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6  
MB  
05/15/02 1636

Applicant(s): Grooms & Mills

Serial No.: 09/960,256

Filed: 9/20/2001

Title: METHOD OF PREPARING AND  
PROCESSING TRANSPLANT  
TISSUE

Group Art Unit:  
1636

RECEIVED

MAR 06 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Attorney Docket No.: RTI-128R

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
- ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
  - ☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
- (After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
- ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
  - ☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
- (Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Date of Deposit:

2-11-2002

Typed Name: Timothy H. Van Dyke

Signature:



  
Timothy H. Van Dyke  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 43218

Date:

2-11-2002

Customer No: 29847

Van Dyke & Associates, P.A.  
1630 Hillcrest Street  
Orlando, FL 32803  
Phone: 407-228-0328; Fax: 407-228-0329

FEB 25 2002

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

# 1

of

1

<b>Application Number</b>	09/960,256
---------------------------	------------

09/960,256

<b>Filing Date</b>	9/20/2001
--------------------	-----------

9/20/2001

<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Grooms
-----------------------------	--------

## Grooms

Group Art Unit	1636
----------------	------

1636

Examiner Name	Unknown
---------------	---------

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number	RTI-128R
------------------------	----------

RTI-128R

[illegible][illegible]

**Examiner  
Signature**

Date  
Considered

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.